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Weekly Weather			
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Source: weather.com			

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Student Publication

The Southwestern

Wednesday, March 4 2009 · Volume 100 Number 18

Talk sessions prove successful

By Misty Crosby
Staff Reporter

Let's Talk About SWOSU is a monthly meeting where there is no official agenda, no official minutes taken, and any topic is up for discussion.

The idea for the sessions came from Dr. Radwan Al-Jarrah in 2004 when a common complaint on campus was a general lack of communication throughout campus.

Almost from the moment of conception, President Dr. John Hays put the meetings into an agenda. The meetings have a regular attendance of 30-35 people, but the administration would be elated to see more.

"I would definitely like to see more student participation. Student

input is obviously very important," Hays said.

The meetings are open to everyone: students, faculty, staff, and even members of the surrounding communities.

Since the meetings have started, the complaint about lack of communication has dwindled.

Those involved don't see any reason to discontinue the meetings.

"Evidently it was successful or else we would have stopped it," Al-Jarrah said.

"I do hope that the sessions continue. I think it would be a good tradition," Hays said. "We have seen some ideas that have worked their way into action."

One issue that has been discussed at the meetings

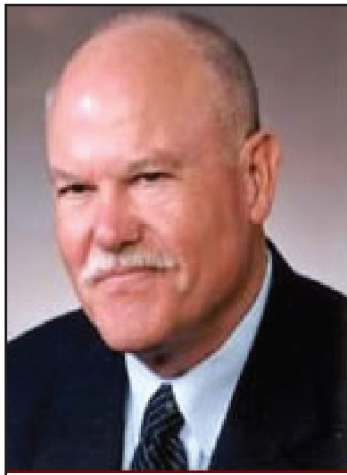


Radwan Al-Jarrah

is the addition of an explanatory plaque to the "Walk in the Heartland" cement mural outside of the Tom Stafford Building.

"I didn't know the story behind it," Al-Jarrah said, "but now we have the plaque that explains it and everyone can know."

Other issues that are discussed include SWOSU's remedial



John Hays

program, the budget, tuition fees, and buildings and renovations on campus.

"To my knowledge, I don't know of any other campus that has this kind of effective communication channel," Al-Jarrah said.

The sessions are also a provision of accessibility to students who may have an issue and are unsure of

whom to contact. One visit to the sessions will usually bring anyone face to face with the SWOSU President, Vice President, Deans, and Associate Deans.

With all the people who run SWOSU being grouped together, a student can actually save time getting an issue resolved.

Also, these people have volunteered to put themselves in front of a proverbial firing squad for the sake of improving communications and meeting concerns head on. It takes a certain amount of integrity to allow a, perhaps, embittered student or faculty member to express their concerns.

"Sometimes just to be given the chance to vent is something that will greatly reduce a problem," Al-Jarrah said.

The time and date of each meeting is decided at the beginning of each semester. A monthly e-mail may start being sent to students, along with faculty, from the SWOSU Public Relations office.

The next two meetings are set to take place on Monday, March 9th from 11:30-1:00, and the April meeting is set for Monday the 20th, 11:30-1:00.

Meetings are held in the Student Union, in the Skyroom on the second floor. Attendees are invited to bring their own lunch.

Dr. Al-Jarrah is the moderator for the meetings and he can be contacted by anyone who has questions in regard to Let's Talk About SWOSU. His office number is 774-7152. His e-mail is radwan.aljarrah@swosu.edu.



Neff Hall residents and advisors help clear litter in the grass running alongside Highway 54. They will be cleaning the highway four times a semester. (Photo by Josh Collins)

Neff Hall adopts portion of highway

By Ashley Slemp
Features Editor

For over a decade, volunteer groups have been cleaning up Oklahoma's "front yard" as part of the Adopt-A-Highway (AAH) Program.

Neff Hall decided to join in and is helping to keep our land looking grand.

On Sunday, February 15, Neff Hall participated in a

highway cleanup project. They adopted two miles on Highway 54 and will be cleaning about four times a semester, with the contract lasting two years. Their job is to pick up trash along the roadside and put the trash in bags. The bags are then collected by another source.

There were 7 Resident Advisors and 8 Neff Hall residents present for the highway cleanup.

"We just really wanted to give back to the community and we thought this was a good way to do it," said Neff Hall Director Josh Collins. Collins took all the volunteers to Pizza Hut after their volunteer work.

"The cleanup was fun and not too hard," said Resident Advisor Garrett Scott. "We are expecting a lot more guys to join us

next time."

If Neff Hall residents are interested in participating for the next highway cleanup, they can talk to the Hall Director or any of the Resident Advisors. If organizations are willing to adopt a segment of highway, they can contact the Beautification Office at (405) 521-4037, or email inquiries to: beauty@odot.org.

Tough Enough planners expect huge turnout

By Kenzie Axtell
Staff Reporter

SWOSU's 2nd annual Tough Enough 5K fundraiser has already gained a lot of attention.

"We've already had people register from five different states," said Britnee Goure, secretary of SWOSU's Tough Enough 5k run/walk.

This race is a USATF-certified, sanctioned event and will begin at 9 am Saturday March 28.

The overall 1st place runner will win \$250, \$200 will go to the 2nd place overall runner, and lastly \$150 for the 3rd overall runner. All winnings are rewarded in the form of Weatherford Chamber Bucks.

Door prizes will be given away as well. There will also be a free brunch for racers in the SWOSU cafeteria following the race; non-racers can purchase the meal for \$5.

Age categories begin at 15 years old. The top participant in each age

group will win \$50. The groups are 15 +, 20+, 25+, 30+, 35+, 40+, 45+, 50+, 55+, 60+, and 65+.

Participants can pay \$25 before March 28 to register. Registering the day of the race will cost \$35. All participants will receive a T-shirt and a SWOSU bag.

There will also be 10 free entries available to each residence hall to be given to residents interested in participating in the race.

According to Goure, 100 percent of the registration proceeds go to The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

"Registration has doubled since this time last year," said Goure. Last year brought in 133 runners and the expected number this year is at 250.

Registration forms are available in Dean of Students Cindy Dougherty's office or online at www.signmeup.com (search for Tough Enough). For more information contact Dougherty at 774-3767.

Conversation Starters

1 A man was arrested for allegedly stealing an ambulance that arrived to help him after a car crash. When emergency personnel arrived, he refused treatment. Instead he hopped into the ambulance and sped away.

Source: foxnews.com

2 A botched proposal ended in disaster for Kaitlin Whipple, who accidentally ate her engagement ring. Her would-be fiancé hid the ring in a Wendy's frosty.

Source: msnbc.com

3 Daytona Beach police have identified a generous donor who left \$10,000 in a bag of clothing at a thrift store. After the money was found, officials said the person who dropped it off was a regular.

Source: kissmeimabbw.newsvine.com

NEWS



The Kloset owner Martha Sauer makes a point about professional dress worn by SWOSU students Jamie Forrest and Lynn Brandly.

Local business offers advice for professional issues class

Southwestern Oklahoma State University female students currently enrolled in Professional Issues, an entrepreneurship class in the School of Business and Technology, recently visited The Kloset, a women’s retail store located on Weatherford’s West Main Street.

Martha Sauer, owner for the last 35 years, shared her thoughts on the value of professional dress. Kim Standiford, employee at The Kloset, gave a presentation, and two young ladies from the class modeled outfits that Sauer and Standiford suggested.

Earlier in the semester, male students enrolled in the course visited Butcher’s Men Wear and heard from Phillip Reid, publisher of the Weatherford Daily

News. He spoke about men’s professional dress and proper fit of men’s wear.

“Hearing about professional dress from people who work in the retail industry gives students another perspective on the importance of professional dress. Because appearance is so important when making a first impression, knowing the correct type of clothes is a vital part of professional issues,” said Dr. Patsy Parker, assistant professor of the PI course. “We had a great time during our visits to downtown Weatherford, and we really appreciate the hospitality extended by Ferrell Butcher of Butcher’s and Martha Sauer of The Kloset.”

SWOSU’s Department of Entrepreneurship offers the professional issues course. It is an in-depth study of human relations, job searching, interviewing, resume writing, business etiquette and workplace development. The students also participate in numerous events during the semester.

The class participates in activities that help students better understand their strengths and improvements, using programs like “True Colors.” Guest speakers for the class have included such people as Chris McKeever, a SWOSU graduate and marketing manager for Sonic, and former SWOSU President Dr. Joe Anna Hibler.

Students chosen for OL program

Thirty-four Southwestern Oklahoma State University students were recently selected to serve as orientation leaders (OLs) on the Weatherford campus.

As OLs, the students will serve as mentors in this fall’s eight-week freshman orientation courses taught by SWOSU faculty, administration and staff.

The students are already involved and responsible for a large part of the orientation session for incoming freshmen. The students will also help facilitate Dawg Day activities held during the first few weeks of the fall semester.

The orientation leaders were selected through a competitive application and interview process.

The students are enrolled in a two-hour leadership course this spring taught by New Student Orientation Coordinator Shelby Adams and NSO staff member Jena Skarda.

The OLs are: Elizabeth Austin, Borger, Texas; Rozlyn Austin, Bonham, TX; Daniel Ballard, Rush Springs (Chickasha HS); Aaron Bark and Heather Hooch, both from Oklahoma City (Putnam City North); Erica Benda, Union City; Ryan Brewer, Choctaw; Kathleen Crook, Okeene;

Myka Davis, Lookeba; Shanna Deevers, Weatherford; Eric Evenson, Sayre; Paisley Ford, Oklahoma City

(Putnam City HS); Bobby Gantt, Fletcher; Meghan Haftman, Edmond (Edmond Memorial HS); Elizabeth Handke, Tuttle (Community Christian HS);

Allison Helm, Geary; Natalie Hopper, Mustang; Ryan Kendrick, Lawton (Eisenhower HS); Zak Key, Vici; Lynsi Mason, Edmond (Madill HS); Tina Murray, Inola (Tulsa East Central HS); Hannah Pemberton, Amarillo, TX (Tascosa HS);

Leah Radke, Woodward; Cassidy Rikli, Enid (Drummond HS); Cailyn Russell, Hulbert, (Tahlequah HS); LaKesha Seals, Tulsa (Tulsa Edison HS);

Alex Sherry, Holdenville; Candace Sutton, Hinton; Brenda Valencia and J.J. Witt, both from Guymon;

Kayla Wallis, Chickasha; Ariel Werchan, Shawnee;

Raelyn Williams, Bridge Creek; and Christopher Wynn, Duncan (Marlow HS).

The NSO program offers additional leadership roles to selected students through the Advisory Board. In addition to fulfilling the duties of an orientation leader, members of the

Advisory Board meet weekly and play a greater role in planning orientation and training sessions.

The members serve as liaisons between the OLs and NSO staff. The members of the Advisory Board are Elizabeth Austin (Student Orientation Session), Natalie Hopper (Family Orientation Session) and Allison Helm (Committees Chair).

The first NSO orientation session for incoming freshmen is March 12. Students must first apply and be accepted to SWOSU before they can attend an orientation session.

Each of the orientation sessions offers students the chance to meet current SWOSU students and new freshmen, visit and enroll with a faculty advisor within the major they have selected, and have all their questions answered. They can also take campus and residence hall tours.

For more information, visit www.swosu.edu/admissions/nso or contact New Student Orientation at 580.774.3233 or orientation@swosu.edu.

Additional NSO orientation sessions are April 3 and 21, June 10, July 20 and August 14.

Math institute set for this summer

Southwestern has received \$171,200 in grant funding to provide summer institutes in mathematics for K-8 teachers in Oklahoma.

The institutes are part of SWOSU’s “KESAM SP 2009: K-8 Scholars Appreciating Mathematics Statewide Partnerships 2009” program.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) authorized the Highly Qualified Teachers and Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program which is managed by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

The OSRHE awarded the NCLB grant to SWOSU and Dr. John Woods, principal investigator of the grant and chair/professor of the Department of Mathematics. The institutes will be held in June and July on the campuses of SWOSU, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, and Carl Albert State College in Poteau. There will also be a follow-up workshop offered in November or February.



Summer institutes in mathematics for K-8 teachers in Oklahoma will be provided thanks to a \$171,200 grant received by Southwestern. Among those involved in the program are (from left): Dr. Don Wilson, SWOSU Department of Education professor emeritus; Jan Sands, master teacher; Dr. John Woods, grant principal investigator and chair of the SWOSU Department of Mathematics; Anita Blankenship, director of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs; and Dr. Blake Sonobe, SWOSU provost.

Woods said the goal of the program is to ensure that all students have highly qualified teachers of mathematics. This summer’s primary goal is to train 96 K-8 Oklahoma teachers in mathematics content and pedagogy and the Oklahoma P.A.S.S. standards. Also, follow-up

support will be provided for the participants during the 2009-10 academic year.

Teacher participants will come from high-need public and private local education agencies from all regions of Oklahoma. The program is a collaborative effort by Woods; Jan Sands, a master teacher and

outstanding 30-year public school teacher; Dr. Don Wilson, SWOSU emeritus professor of education; three site directors—SWOSU instructor Cathy DeVaughan, NEO Dean of Science and Mathematics Dr. John Lomax, and CASCV Academic Vice President Dr. Jim Yates.

The Southwestern

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THE SOUTHWESTERN is the student newspaper of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. It is published every Wednesday during the fall and spring semesters, except during holidays and finals week. Students in the editing class serve as section editors, and students in the news gathering and reporting class serve as writers.

The editorial board meets every Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. in the journalism lab, Campbell 211.

THE SOUTHWESTERN encourages comments from the student body, faculty, and administration in the form of letters to the editor. All letters must include a name for consideration; however, the name may be withheld upon request.

The opinions expressed within signed editorials are the opinions of the writers; the opinions expressed in unsigned, boxed editorials are the opinion of the staff. Neither is necessarily the opinion of the university administration, staff or faculty.

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NEWS

Non-smoking bill debated at open forum

By Dana McBee
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association held an open debate for students to voice their opinions about upcoming legislation that would make the campus completely tobacco free.

Before any actual debating began, Student Government President Greg Franklin, author of the bill, spoke for several minutes, reading and discussing the bill. Franklin explained the intent of the bill as being focused on the image Southwestern should present to the youth on campus throughout the year, to the state, and to the community.

The bill does not mention the health risks of using tobacco. The bill’s purpose is not to protect non-smokers from second-hand smoke,

but to show Southwestern as a positive influence to youth. This bill will accomplish that by setting a positive standard in western Oklahoma that the youth and community can use in determining how to live their lives.

Those wishing to speak were divided in to pro and opposing sides. Each group had ten minutes to choose 6 speakers. The speakers, from alternating sides each turn, were given two minutes each with the option to yield any remaining time to their camp.

The debate itself lasted 25 minutes. Points covered ranged from civil liberties, to the rewards cigarettes bring a smoker, to the effects on youth and the disabled. The arguments were courteous and refrained from using personal attacks, allowing for a variety of views and opinions to be expressed

in a civil manner.

Afterwards, Franklin and other members of SGA answered questions about the legislation. Concerns on how the decision would be enforced, what other options have been looked at, and specifics of the bill were all covered.

The bill has currently passed through SGA legislation committee and was sent to the Student Senate with a recommendation of “Do Pass.”

The Senate will hear and discuss the legislation at the March 4 meeting. During the Senate session, amendments can be added and passed to alter the bill. Then the Senate will vote to pass or fail the bill. If the bill passes, it will be placed on a ballot for the entire student body to vote on.

Senate meetings are open for all students to attend.

Relay for Life comes to Southwestern

By Jasmine Cocheran
Staff Reporter

Approximately 1.4 million people in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer this year, and one in every three people will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime.

Of adults diagnosed with cancer, only 64 percent of them will live more than five years.

The National Institutes of Health estimate overall cost for cancer in 2009 at \$219.2 billion.

That means more money is spent on treating cancer than any other disease. So how can we contribute to finding a cure?

Relay for Life is a non-profit organization that allows 3.5 million people to come together and take a stand

against a disease that takes too much.

SWOSU is hosting the Relay for Life event, in which students, faculty, and other members of the Weatherford community will team up in the fight against cancer.

Starting April 24th in the Wellness Center, teams will be walking throughout the entire night to show their support.

Each team has set a goal for the amount of money they wish to raise. The teams also consist of one “bachelor” to auction off the night of the relay.

All the money raised during this event will go to the American Cancer Society to make progress toward a future where cancer no longer threatens the lives of people we love.

Whether you have been affected personally by cancer, or know someone who has, Relay for Life is a great way



to get involved in the struggle to cure America’s most deadly disease.

Help make the American Cancer Society motto a reality and “Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back.”

Special Olympics at Weatherford High

By Dianna Fair
Staff Reporter

Our local Special Olympics will be held at Weatherford High School on March 28, 2009 at 8:00 am. Our local group is called Route 66 and we are in area 11. It usually lasts until about 12 or 12:30 p.m. and the events will include track and field events. The Special Olympics is something our local special needs people look forward to all year long. The Special Olympics activity is all thanks to the many volunteers and teachers bringing their students to participate. For further information and ways you can help out, go to their website at www.soook.org.

Special Olympics was founded by Eunice Kennedy Shriver and was created by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation in 1968. The first International Special

Olympics Games were held at Soldier Field in Chicago. There are now programs in all 50 states and there are 2.25 million participants in over 160 countries.

Oklahoma held their first Special Olympics in Tulsa in 1969. Then in 1972 they were incorporated as a non-profit organization in Oklahoma.

It’s the donations and fundraisers that keep the Special Olympics going in Oklahoma for the special needs participants.

They have several major fundraising events that help support over 100 activities for over 9,500 Special Olympic athletes in Oklahoma. The mission statement of Special



Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic type sports for children and adults intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness.

The goal of Special Olympics is to help all persons with special need disabilities grow into more productive members of society and give them the self-esteem to make new friends.

The training and exercise keeps them strong and motivated to want more in life. This couldn’t be possible without family support and the many volunteers and teachers that make this dream come true.

Band auditions sought for SWOSUPalooza

By Danny Vise Jr
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association is now accepting auditions and logo ideas for SWOSUPalooza 10, which is on April 16. This year’s theme is “The End is Near”.

SWOSUPalooza is an outdoor concert held on campus during the spring. It involves a mix of local talent and touring artists.

Last year’s headliner was *No Justice*, a red-dirt country band. This year the *Randy Rogers Band*, another red-dirt band from Texas, will be the headliner. *Rolling Stone* listed the *Randy Rogers Band* in its 2007 list of “Top 10 Acts to See”.

The concert will not feature only country music bands.

All types of music groups are encouraged to audition. Other notable bands that have played in recent years include: *Hush Hush Commotion*, *Congress*

of a Crow, and *Winter Circle*, all of whom play various styles of rock music.

All auditions must be submitted by March 6.

All materials may be mailed to: SWOSU SGA, Attn: Secretary Ortega, 100 Campus Drive, Weatherford, OK 73096. Or, demos and logo designs can be taken to the Dean of Students Office in Stafford Center 214. Any questions can be e-mailed to sga@swosu.edu or by calling (405) 408-6045.

Coming up at SWOSU...

• Spring forward one hour Sunday

Daylight savings time will resume on Sunday, March 8. Students are reminded to turn their clocks forward one hour Saturday evening.

• Graduating seniors can pick up graduation materials March 9

Graduating Seniors can pick up their cap, gown, tassel, order announcements and have a photo taken March 9th 10:-6:00, March 10th & 11th 9:00-5:00 at the University Bookstore, located in Rogers & Jefferson Dorms.

• SWOSU PBL officers host Teddy Bear drive

Members of the Southwestern-Sayre chapter of Phi Beta Lambda are holding a teddy bear drive.

The business organization’s State Leadership Conference will be held March 26-28 at the Reed Conference Center in Midwest City. The SWOSU-Sayre students will take the bears they collect to the conference, where they will be delivered to the Oklahoma City YMCA’s Domestic Violence Women’s Shelter.

Donated bears should be at least eight inches tall.

If you would like to put a smile on a child’s face and donate, bears can be delivered to SWOSU-Sayre PBL sponsor Holly Hernandez or to any of the student officers: Blake Bustin, Kelsey Ackley, Cyndy Blevins, Sarah Kenney or Petra Acosta. Hernandez can be contacted at (580) 928-5533, extension 153, for more information.

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FEATURES

Students find thrifty spring break options

By Linsey Hale
Staff Reporter

Some students look for cheaper Spring Break trip alternatives than drinking \$10 cocktails on a beach in Mexico.

These students have some clever and fun ideas for those wanting to skip the sand and surf in 2009.

Chris Hebensperger, a junior Comm. Arts major from Hobart, is one such student. “Going anywhere with a group of friends is always fun and easy on the wallet,” Hebensperger said.

“I’m going to Nebraska on a mission trip; I’ve

known other students to do volunteer work during Spring Break because they can’t find time during the semester because of homework and tests,” he said.

Hebensperger has investigated several cost-cutting alternatives for Spring Break.

“I would suggest renting a cabin with a group of friends and go skiing,” he said. “Cabin rentals often are more expensive in the summer than the spring, so you might be able to find some great deals. Also, if you can’t scrape up the money to visit old Mexico, you can always drive down

to Corpus Cristi.”

Erica Benda, a freshman Pre-pharmacy / Chem major from Union City, is celebrating Spring Break with her family. She said her family found a great deal.

“I am going on a cruise. I think they’re a good idea for spring break,” she said. “You can drive to wherever your ship is docked, which makes the trip pretty cheap. Also, cruises don’t have to be expensive; they have really cheap packages online and in many brochures.”

“I really enjoy spending the time with my family, too, especially since I don’t live with them

anymore,” Benda said.

Other ideas would be visiting a local national park, an indoor water park or maybe riding roller-coasters at a nearby theme park.

Most students are choosing a simple plan.

“I’m going home,” said Krystal Wright, a senior Marketing major from Fort Worth, Texas.

However, Wright said she knows friends who are taking road trips to places such as Padre Island in Texas. She said those students are going in groups to cut down on costs.

Cabaret opens this week

Several groups at Southwestern Oklahoma State University are combining forces to present the production of Cabaret March 6-10 on the Weatherford campus.

The Department of Communication and Theatre, the SWOSU Players, and members of the Department of Music are working together on the production that will be staged March 6, 8, 9, and 10 at 7:30 p.m. and on March 7 at 2 p.m. in the Hilltop Theatre.

Based on the play I am a Camera by John Van Druten and adapted from the Berlin Stories by Christopher Isherwood, Cabaret is set in pre-war Berlin. It is a scandalous tale of sex, money and dark secrets.

As the show begins, Cliff Bradshaw (J. J. Witt, Guymon) has arrived in Berlin on the eve of 1931. The Nazis are taking power, but “life is beautiful” in a shabby cabaret known as the Kit Kat Klub. He falls in love with second-rate performer Sally Bowles (Cierra Musick-Jennings, Weatherford). The two are soon living together in a run-down rooming house owned by Fräulein Schneider (Eryn Brooks, Woodward). Sally’s irresponsible lifestyle begins to engulf Cliff even as the Nazi poison engulfs Germany, and revelers of the Cabaret world never notice that they are being carried away by the rising tide of fascism.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for non-SWOSU students, and free for individuals with an SWOSU ID. Seating is extremely limited; thus, advance purchases and /or reservations are encouraged. The SWOSU Hilltop Theatre box office is open Monday-Thursday from 5-6 p.m. Tickets may be purchased on performance evenings from 5:30 until curtain-time. For more information or to make reservations, please call the box office at 580-774-6046.

SWOSU faculty members overseeing the production are Steve Strickler as director, Skip Klingman as musical director and Stephen Haynes technical direction.

Some universities discouraging students from spending Spring Break in Mexico

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. State Department and universities around the country are warning college students headed for Mexico for some spring-break partying of a surge in drug-related murder and mayhem south of the border.

“We’re not necessarily telling students not to go, but we’re going to certainly alert them,” said Tom Dougan, vice president for student affairs at the University of Rhode Island. “There have been Americans kidnapped, and if you go you need to be very aware and very alert to this fact.”

More than 100,000 high school- and college-age Americans travel to Mexican resort areas during spring break each year. Much of the drug violence is happening in border towns, and tourists have generally not been targeted, though there have been killings in the big spring-break resorts of Acapulco and Cancun, well away from the border.

The University of Arizona in Tucson is urging its approximately 37,000 students not to go to

Mexico. Other universities — in the Southwest and far beyond, including Penn State, Notre Dame, the University of Colorado and the University at Buffalo — said they would call students’ attention to the travel warning issued Feb. 20 by the State Department.

The State Department stopped short of warning spring breakers not to go to Mexico, but advised them to avoid areas of prostitution and drug-dealing and take other commonsense precautions.

“Sage advice,” said Tom Mangan, a spokesman for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. “We have had documented violence, attacks, killings, shootouts with the drug cartels involving not only the military but law enforcement personnel. It is indiscriminate violence, and certainly innocent people have been caught up in that collateral damage.”

Mexico’s drug cartels are waging a bloody fight among themselves for smuggling routes and against government forces, carrying out massacres and

dumping beheaded bodies in the streets. More than 6,000 people were killed in drug violence in Mexico last year.

But Mexican Attorney General Eduardo Medina Mora said in an interview with The Associated Press: “There is no major risk for students coming into Mexico in general terms. It is always important to advise the youngsters to behave.”

Despite the bloodshed, the number of foreign tourists visiting Mexico surged to 23 million in 2008, up 5.9 percent from the year before, spurred in part by the tumbling value of the peso against the dollar, according to the country’s Tourism Department. The department estimates 80 percent of tourists in Mexico come from the United States.

“Cancun has always been one of our most popular destinations and that hasn’t changed this year,” said Patrick Evans of STA Travel, one of the biggest spring-break travel agencies. “Many of the packages we offer include lodging on the beach and in very nice resorts that

take the utmost pride in making sure customers are safe.”

Some students said the warnings are unlikely to deter them.

University of Arizona sophomore Daniel Wallace is going to Puerto Penasco, or Rocky Point, for spring break, saying he is not worried about violence there. Besides, the 19-year-old said: “It’s relaxing, it’s warm, I’m a big fan of the beach and the drinking age is lower. It’s a fun place to go.”

Amanda Corbett, a sophomore at North Carolina State, said she is going snowboarding in Virginia because she couldn’t afford Cancun. But three of her roommates are going there.

“They really wanted to go,” the 20-year-old said. “Honestly, they probably think nothing will happen to them. That’s the way I would look at it.”

“If anything is going to deter people,” said Danielle Jones, a North Carolina State student who is staying close to home because of a family emergency, “it’s the recession.”,

Bands host concert

Melia Jacobi
Staff Reporter

A free symphonic concert will be held at 7 P.M. Thursday, March 5 in the Fine Arts Center.

Two bands will perform: the symphonic band and the community band.

The symphonic band will play a variety of music including Cajun folk songs by Frank Ticheli, traditional marches and contemporary music.

The symphonic band is overseen by Terry Segress. Adriel Reynolds and Elisa Endres, two graduate assistants, will help.

The symphonic band

meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon. No audition is required to join. Anyone interested may be in the band.

The community band will also play a wide variety of music. One piece will be *Appalachian Overture* by James Barnes.

The community band is overseen by Dr. James South.

The community band is made up of many age groups ranging from 13 to 70. They meet one night a week.

The concert should last a little over an hour.

“It should be an enjoyable evening to all,”

BULLDOG BITES

Readers may submit recipes to be published to
thesouthwestern@swosu.edu.

Creamy Chicken over Pasta
from *supercollegechef.blogspot.com*

- *2 Chicken breasts, cubed
- * 1 can Cream of Mushroom Soup
- * 1 6oz can of Sliced Mushrooms
- * 1 package of Egg Noodles
- * 1 cup chopped onion
- * Vegetable Oil.



Combine 2 tbsp vegetable oil, onion and chicken in skillet and heat on medium until onions are tender and chicken is fully cooked. Stir in mushrooms and soup, reduce heat to low and simmer 10 min.

Prepare noodles according to package directions, then serve chicken and sauce over noodles. Add salt and pepper to taste.

This Week in History



- **March 4, 1933** - At the height of the Great Depression, Franklin Delano Roosevelt is inaugurated as the 32nd president of the United States.
- **March 5, 1963** - the Hula-Hoop, a hip-swiveling toy that became a huge fad across America when it was first marketed by Wham-O in 1958, is patented.
- **March 6, 1899** - The Imperial Patent Office in Berlin registers Aspirin.
- **March 7, 1876** - Alexander Graham Bell receives a patent for his revolutionary new invention-- the telephone.

- **March 8, 1971** - Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier meet for the “Fight of the Century” at Madison Square Garden in New York City. The bout marked Ali’s return to the marquee three-and-a-half years after boxing commissions revoked his license over his refusal to fight in the Vietnam War.
- **March 9, 1959** - The first Barbie doll goes on display at the American Toy Fair in New York City.

SPORTS

Men play in tournament Thursday

By Sports Information

Southwestern Oklahoma State University’s late-season charge to a Lone Star Conference North Division title came up short after a 76-68 to Central Oklahoma Saturday in Edmond.

Southwestern finished its regular season at 17-10 and ended in a tie for second in the LSC North at 8-4. UCO improved to 23-4 and won the North with a 10-2 record. Southwestern will enter the LSC Tournament as the North Division’s third-seeded team. The Bulldogs will play Angelo State, the South Division number two, Thursday in Bartlesville, Okla.. Tipoff will be 12 noon at the Bruin Fieldhouse.

Kenneth White had 23 points to lead the Bulldogs in scoring. White scored the bulk of his points late with his relentless drives to the basket. He made 17 trips to the free throw line where he connected on 15 of them.

Jerard Campbell had 14 points and Abdullah Lawal had 12 before fouling out

with six minutes to play. Southwestern had two other players whistled for five fouls in addition to Lawal. Clarke Hale was sent to the bench after scoring nine points and his backup, Keith Richardson, was also disqualified.

Lance Harper had 20 points to lead UCO who entered the game as the nation’s seventh-ranked NCAA Division II team. The Bronchos have now won three straight North Division crowns.

The game was even for much of the first half with each team exchanging leads before the Bronchos took a 30-26 lead at the break. Southwestern kept at UCO’s heels in early portion of the second half. Hale’s three-pointer brought the Bulldogs to within four at 49-45 with 9:20 to play.

UCO then began to distance itself and pushed its lead to double figures for the first time on a pair of free throws by Eric Cazenave with 6:20 to play. Southwestern could never mount a sustained run from that point on as the Bronchos managed to keep their distance to the final buzzer.



Kendall Smith passes the ball to Matej Mrkic during Wednesday’s game against Northeastern. (Photo by Bigyan Koirala)



Lucy Ramon puts in a two-pointer for Southwestern Wednesday. (Photo by Bigyan Koirala)

Women finish season with loss at Central

By Sports Information

Southwestern Oklahoma State University ended its women’s basketball season with a 65-46 loss to Central Oklahoma Saturday in Edmond.

The Bulldogs finished the year with an 8-19 record and sixth in the Lone Star Conference North Division with a 4-10 mark. UCO improved to 23-4 and 13-1 in the division while earning its first-ever outright North crown.

Senior Tobey Beer had eight points in her final game as a Bulldog to lead a Southwestern team that had a difficult time finding its shooting touch. The Bulldogs ended the game making just 27% of their shots on 16-of-60 attempts. UCO hit at a 42% rate making 23-of-55 attempts.

Southwestern stayed close early and had the Bronchos within its sights. Jennifer DeGarmo swished a three-pointer to cut UCO’s lead to 14-12 with 10:09 to play in the first half. UCO’s lead grew steadily before taking a 34-22 lead into the locker room.

SWOSU got as close as 10 points early in the second half on a basket by Courtney Harper to trim UCO’s lead to 37-27 with 17:35 left. The Bronchos then went on a tear and outscored SWOSU 18-3 over the next nine minutes and had the game in hand leading 55-30 with 8:30 to play.

The Bulldogs did close strong with Kadee Carter connecting on a three-pointer and Allie Burdan hitting a short jumper. Harper and Holly Jennings made two free throws apiece and the margin at the final buzzer shrunk to 19 points.

Baseball team runs win streak to nine

By Sports Information

Southwestern Oklahoma State University ran its win streak to nine straight after sweeping West Texas A&M in a four-game baseball series completed Saturday in Amarillo, Texas.

Southwestern won Friday’s games by scores of 4-1 and 14-5 and then polished off the Buffs with 19-16 and 4-1 victories on Saturday. The wins lifted Southwestern to 13-6 overall and 8-4 in the Lone Star Conference. The Bulldogs will next play Tuesday at Oklahoma Wesleyan before returning home with a four-game series with East Central University beginning on Friday.

In Friday’s first game won by Southwestern 4-1, Drake Accord picked up his third win of the year allowing just one run over five innings. He struck out six batters and walked one while scattering four hits to up his record to 3-1.

Southwestern would score all the runs it would need in a three-run second inning that featured home runs by Morgan Marr and Alex Pagan. Southwestern added a fourth run in the third inning on a RBI single by Ricky Kirby.

In the second game Friday, Southwestern moved in front by scoring four runs in the third. Kenny Hare had the big hit in the inning with a two-RBI triple. Chris Morrison and Tyler Powell also had RBI singles in the inning as Southwestern went ahead 4-2.

Travis Rose put the game away for the Bulldogs later with a three-run homer in the eighth giving Southwestern a 14-3 lead. The homer was the fifth for Rose who leads the team.

On Saturday, Southwestern won a wild 19-16 game after entering its last at bat down by five runs. The Bulldogs began their charge in the seventh when Rose drove in a pair of runs with a single slicing WTAM’s lead to 16-13. After another run by Southwestern, the comeback was complete when Marr hit a bases-loaded double that scored three to put the Bulldogs in front 17-16.

Jason Stover pitched a scoreless seventh by striking out two batters and was credited with the win. He picked up from P.J. Lewallen who pitched well in his first outing allowing just one run through four innings of relief.

In the series finale on Saturday, Chris Morrison shut down the Buffs through six-plus innings to pick up his first win of the year. He allowed just one unearned run while scattering four hits to improve to 1-2.

Southwestern scored the bulk of its runs in a six-run sixth inning that was highlighted by a two-RBI single by Rose. Rose then added more to his RBI total in the seventh driving in a pair of runners in the seventh with a triple.

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SPORTS



Coach Todd Thurman hands over a token of appreciation to Abdullah Lawal, one of the seniors of the men's basketball team, during Lawal's last home game. Also pictured is Thurman's wife, Lynne. (Photo by Bigyan Koirala)

Thurman to step down as coach

By Sports Information

Southwestern Oklahoma State University men's basketball coach Todd Thurman is about to begin the unusual process of finding a replacement for himself. Thurman announced his intentions to step down as men's basketball coach at season's end, but will remain on as the Weatherford school's director of athletics.

Thurman, 47, took over the dual role of men's basketball coach and athletic director last August. He arrived at Southwestern in 2006 after averaging nearly 19 wins during a seven-year run as head basketball coach at Wayland Baptist University. He has won 55 games in his three years at Southwestern including leading the Bulldogs to three consecutive berths in the LSC Postseason Tournament.

This season Thurman coached the Bulldogs to a 17-10 regular-season record and challenged for the LSC North Division title until the season's

final day. Thurman said the physical and mental tolls of working both coach and AD roles was getting increasingly tougher and tougher. He believes that he will have a greater impact on the future success of Southwestern's athletic programs by having his undivided focus on the A.D. position.

"It's hard to admit, but it's probably what needs to be done," Thurman said. "I just decided it's time for me to tackle the A.D. job full time... even if means giving up something I've loved (coaching). I am eager to move Southwestern and its athletic programs forward. This transition will allow us to accelerate our progress in that area even more."

Thurman said he has been encouraged about the interest that his vacated coaching post has generated even though his announcement did not become official until Monday.

"People are starting to take notice, not just about Southwestern basketball, but our entire athletic program

and the direction we're taking it," Thurman said. "I think it is an attractive job that I have no doubt will draw a number of well-qualified applicants."

Thurman said that current assistant Wayne Anderson will assume the interim head coaching duties and maintain the players mandated academic progress checks as well as begin the initial contacts for recruiting.

In the meantime, Thurman will oversee the selection of a new basketball coach and continue to plow head first into a number of other important projects critical to the development of Southwestern's athletic future.

"We have a number of new athletic-related projects that are just entering the planning stages. Much work needs to be done but once they are completed, Southwestern will be a showpiece for our athletic teams and future recruits as well as a source of pride for all our alumni and community."

Intramural basketball heating up

By Dillon Young
Staff Reporter

The intramural basketball regular season is winding down, and teams are still playing to make their respective league's tournaments.

In the Men's A, the more competitive men's league, The Brew Crew, The Veterans, The Dream Team and The Wompatoms are all shoosins for the tournament.

Bryan Bingham, a senior Park and Recreation major from Hobart, is an intramural official. He thinks that The Veterans are the team on top. "The Veterans have used their experience and sharp shooting to

mark themselves as the team to beat," Bingham said.

The Men's B League is also very competitive. Sweet Tea, That Guys, Average Joes, and Do Work round out the top teams in the B League.

One team to watch might be The Crowder Lakers, who started late in the season and have a 1-4 record.

David Oberfield, a freshman pre-pharmacy major from Tuttle, thinks his team the Lakers is improving.

"At first everyone did their own thing and we were out of shape. But now we have chemistry and we're playing together," Oberfield said.

The Women's League is full of talented teams. The top teams

include Miss Impossible, Team Dynamic and The Last Minute Chicks.

Other teams such as DWC, The OK Girls and Queens of Neon have also put up some impressive wins as well.

Kelsey Gee, a junior accounting major from Allen, says she enjoys the competitive nature of the Women's League.

"I love competition and Intramurals is usually a good source of friendly competition," Gee said. As the season winds down the games will only get more competitive.

Games run from Monday to Thursday each night from 6 to 11 in the Wellness Center.

Hyde honored as Pitcher of the Week

By Sports Information

Southwestern Oklahoma State University's Kevin Hyde was recognized by the Lone Star Conference as the baseball pitcher-of-the-week. Hyde, and his Bulldog teammates, went 5-0 during the reporting period, which included a four-game sweep of defending LSC Tournament Champion Texas A&M-Kingsville.

Hyde, a junior from Westmoore High School, was credited with the win in game two by pitching

two scoreless innings in relief as SWOSU rallied for a 12-9 victory over TAMUK. He then started game three and pitched four innings, allowing just three runs, none of which were earned.

Hyde, who played last season at Rose State, is among two Bulldog pitchers who are 2-1 on the year. He has pitched 12-plus innings and carries a 3.55 ERA. He has struck out 15 batters and walked just seven on the year.



Intramural Softball nearing season end

By Drew Cobb
Staff Reporter

Spring break is getting closer and closer. This means intramural basketball will be winding down and intramural softball will be starting up.

As usual, games will be held at Rader Park. There will be a co-ed league, as well as a men's league.

In order put a team together, simply grab a

form from the front desk of the wellness center. It will require names and student I.D. numbers of every team member. There is a maximum of 14 players per roster. There must be an equal man to woman ratio in order to play co-ed.

Rosters are currently available at the wellness center. They must be turned in by spring break in order to participate.

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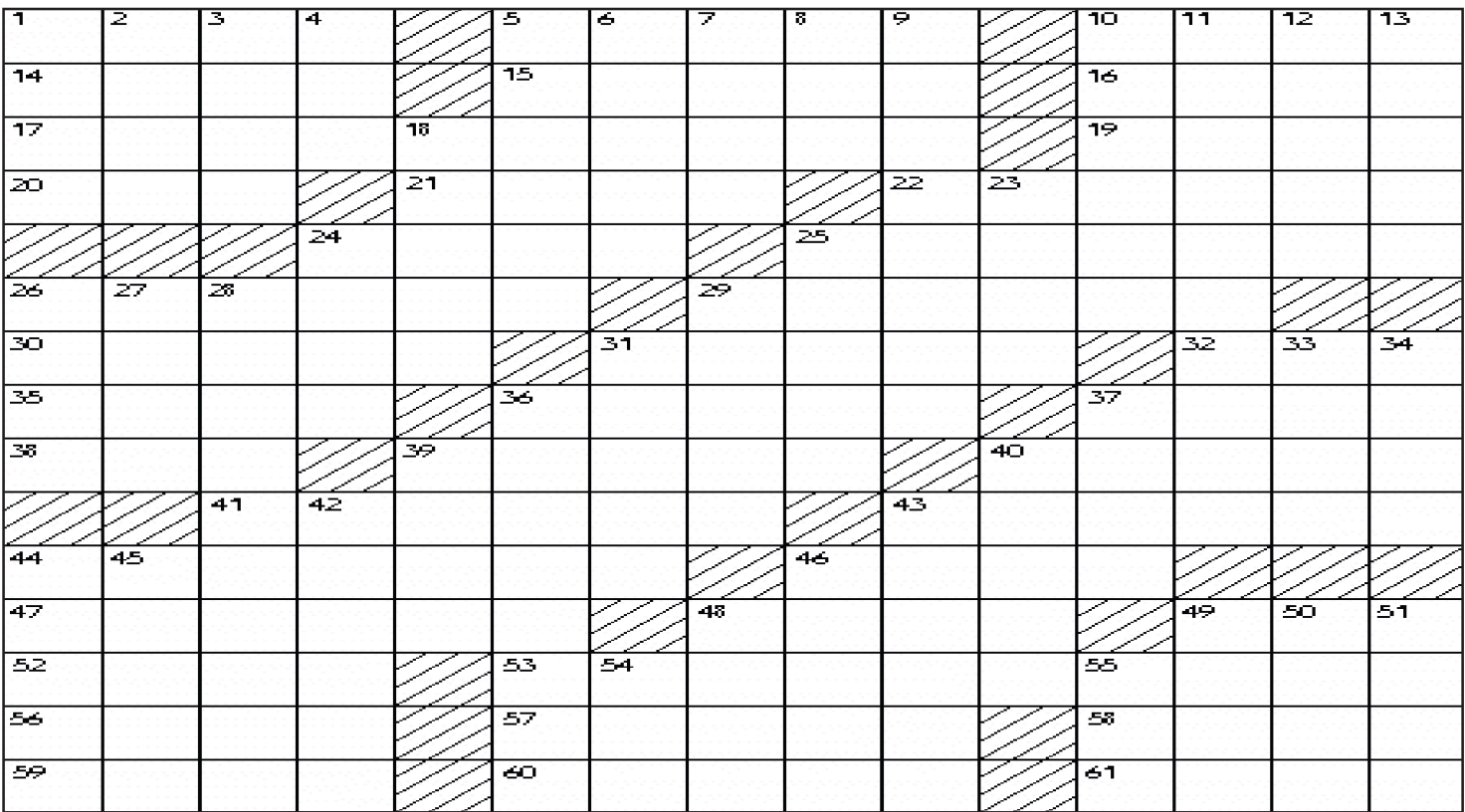
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BACK PAGE

ACROSS

- 1. Marked by good judgment
- 2. Freudian stage
- 3. Small rounded bread
- 4. A nucleic acid
- 5. Buttressed
- 6. One who prefers solitude
- 7. Increases or sums
- 8. Stinging insect
- 9. Wizard
- 10. A group of peoples of the Middle East
- 11. Lobster or crab, for example
- 12. Up to a time
- 13. Ganders
- 18. Someone who is highly skilled
- 23. Tirade
- 24. "Oh my!"
- 25. Bottomed
- 26. A young sheep
- 27. Largest continent
- 28. The first to encounter something
- 29. Underground enclosures
- 31. Not a consonant
- 33. Formerly
- 34. Furrows
- 36. Underground burial tunnel
- 37. Legumes
- 39. Indian dress
- 40. All the plant and animal life of a region
- 42. Imprison until a trial
- 43. Complaints
- 44. The devil
- 45. Bowel cleansing
- 46. Express great joy
- 48. Beige
- 49. Lies
- 50. Chum
- 51. Upon
- 54. Chief Executive Officer
- 55. Also



DOWN

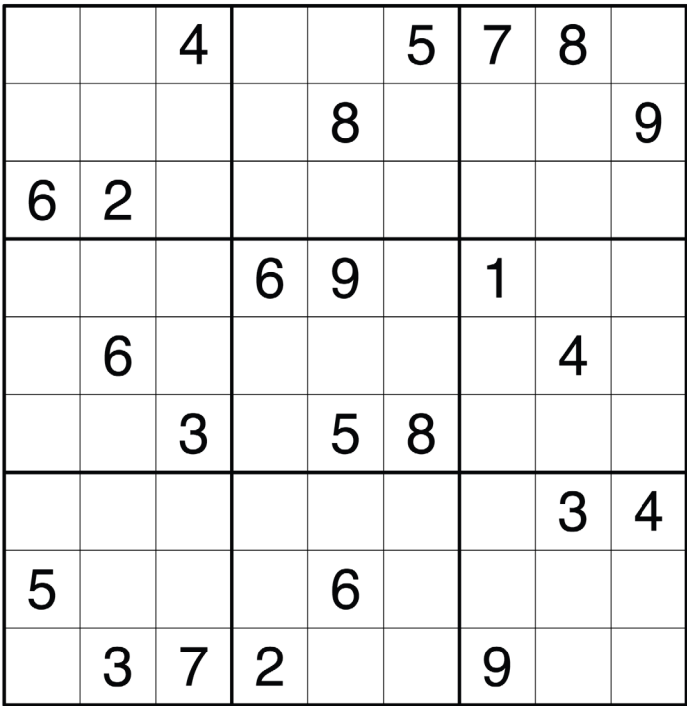
- 1. A suite of rooms in a hospital
- 5. Tattles
- 10. A shade
- 14. Knowing a secret (2 words)
- 15. Cowboy sport
- 16. Sea eagle
- 17. Lizard-like amphibian
- 19. Unable to speak
- 20. L
- 21. Cards with just one symbol
- 22. A difficult situation
- 24. Affirm
- 25. City in Washington state
- 26. Dished out
- 29. The outer covering of the eye
- 30. Pertaining to the largest continent
- 31. Personal manservant
- 32. Conditioned Emotional Response
- 35. A young woman
- 36. Enshroud
- 37. Country in South America
- 38. Anagram of "Cab"
- 39. Cut
- 40. Monster or animal
- 41. Speaks
- 43. Goliaths
- 44. More than a few
- 46. God of love (Greek mythology)
- 47. Lacking vigor
- 48. Way out
- 49. To and ____
- 52. Prefix indicating 1 trillion
- 53. Job
- 56. Ends a prayer
- 57. Common black European thrush
- 58. Death notice
- 59. An ancient aromatic ointment
- 60. Boxing matches
- 61. City in Norway

Journals By: Kristine Mengers



Sudoku

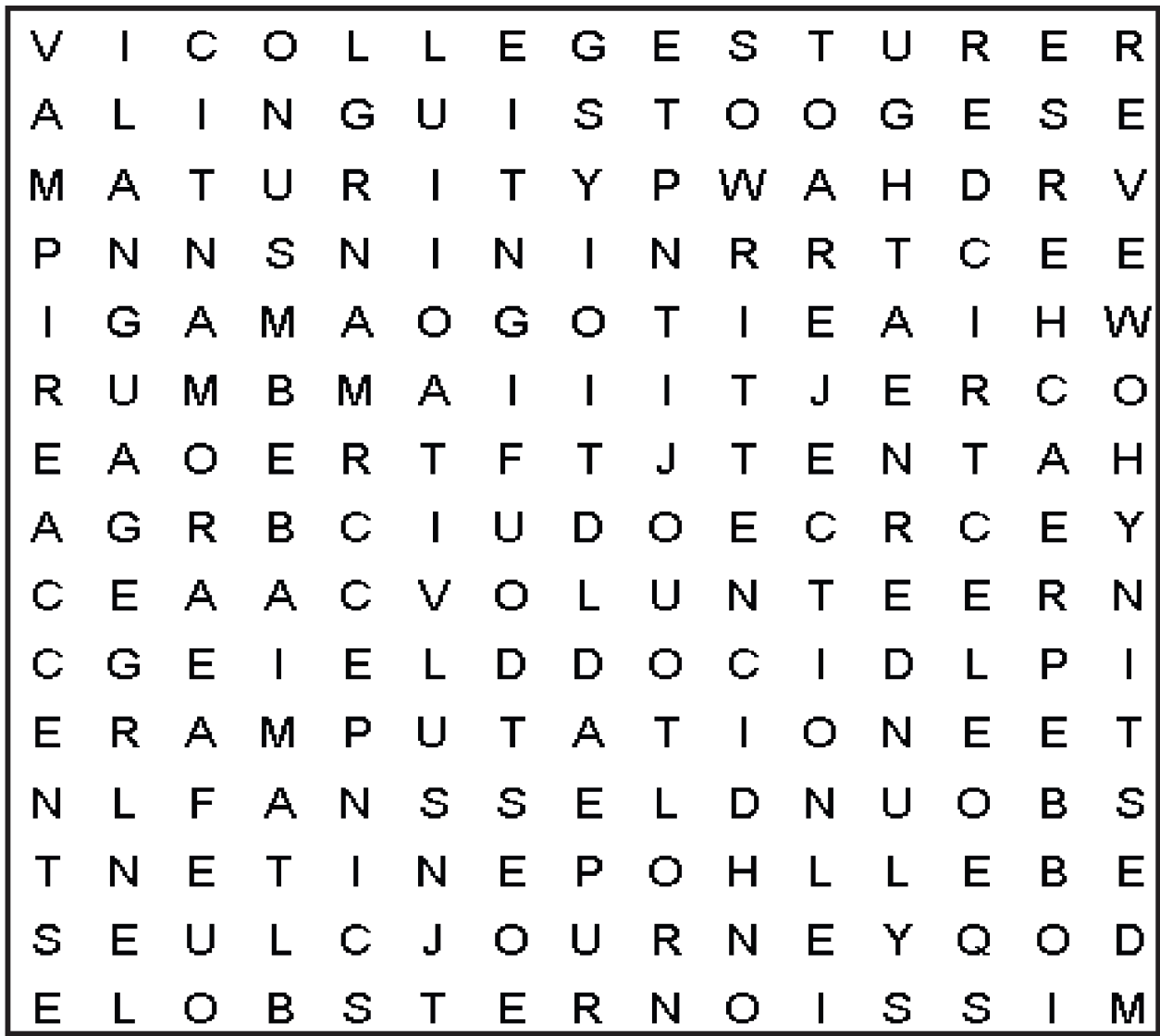
Sudoku: Number puzzle in which numbers must be fit into a 9x9 grid such that each numeral appears exactly once in each row, column and each of nine 3x3 blocks.
Answers at the bottom of this page.



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Word Search

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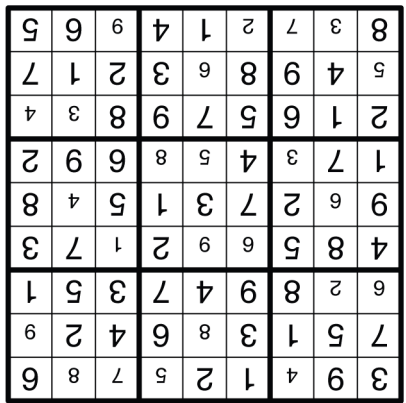
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